



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

5 December 2005

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: December 5, 2005

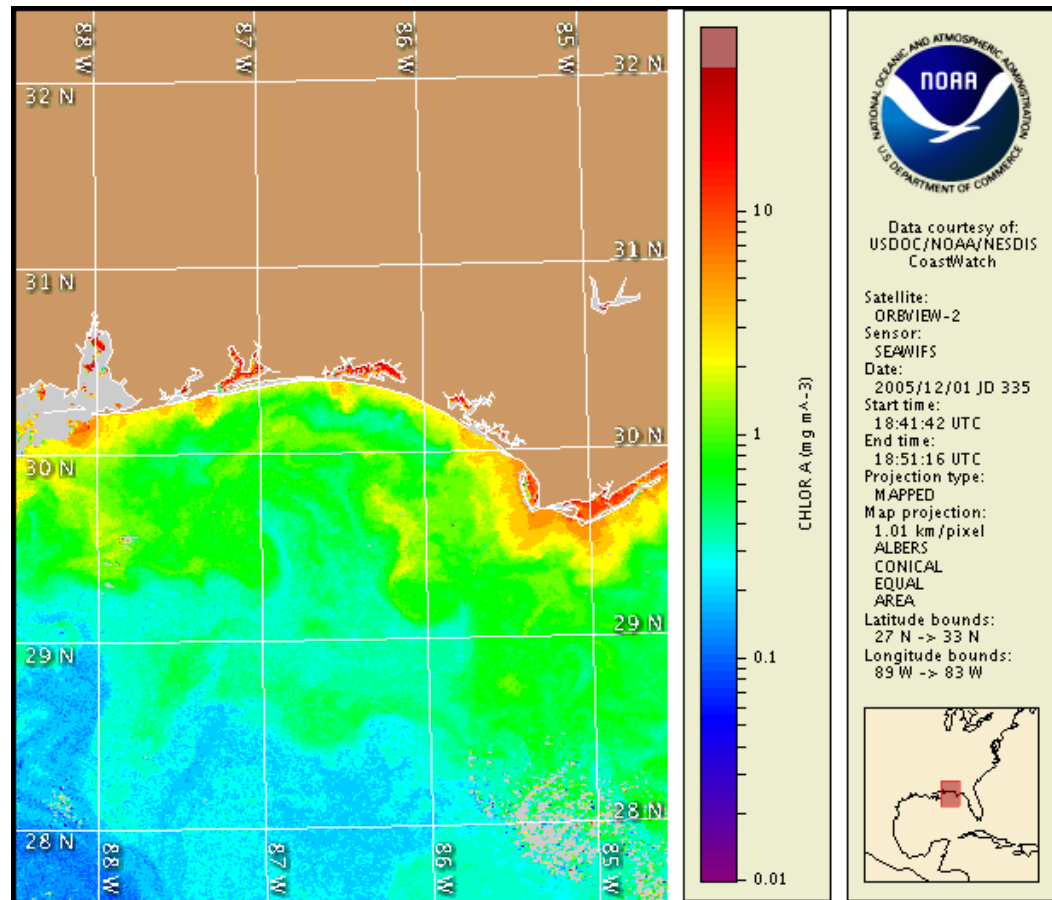
Conditions Report

Harmful algal blooms have been identified in patches from Okaloosa to Bay Counties. Very low impacts are possible in Bay County today, with no impacts tomorrow through Wednesday. Patchy moderate impacts are possible in Okaloosa County today and Wednesday, with no impacts tomorrow. Dead fish have been reported in Okaloosa County over the past few days. Dead fish smell, while unpleasant, does not produce the same respiratory irritation as harmful algal blooms.

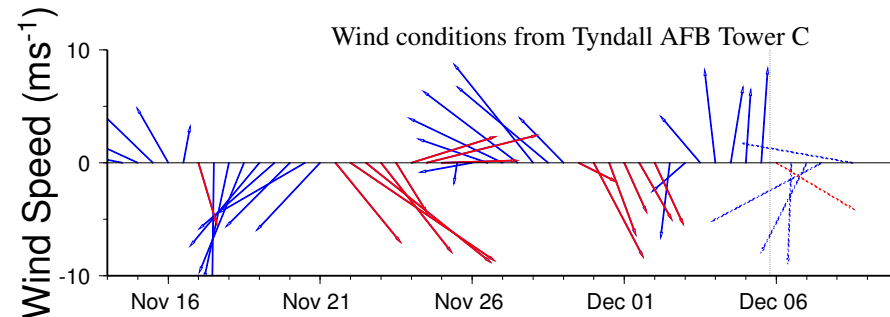
Analysis

The bloom persists in the panhandle of Florida. FWRI sample data from last week had a medium concentration of *Karenia brevis* in Okaloosa County. Dead fish have been reported there as well. Imagery from December 4 indicates a chlorophyll concentration $>6 \mu\text{g/L}$ south of Apalachicola Bay at $29^{\circ}28'N$ $85^{\circ}03'W$. A wind transport model indicates 15 km of possible eastward bloom movement since December 1. No bloom movement is expected through Wednesday.

Bronder, Fenstermacher



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).

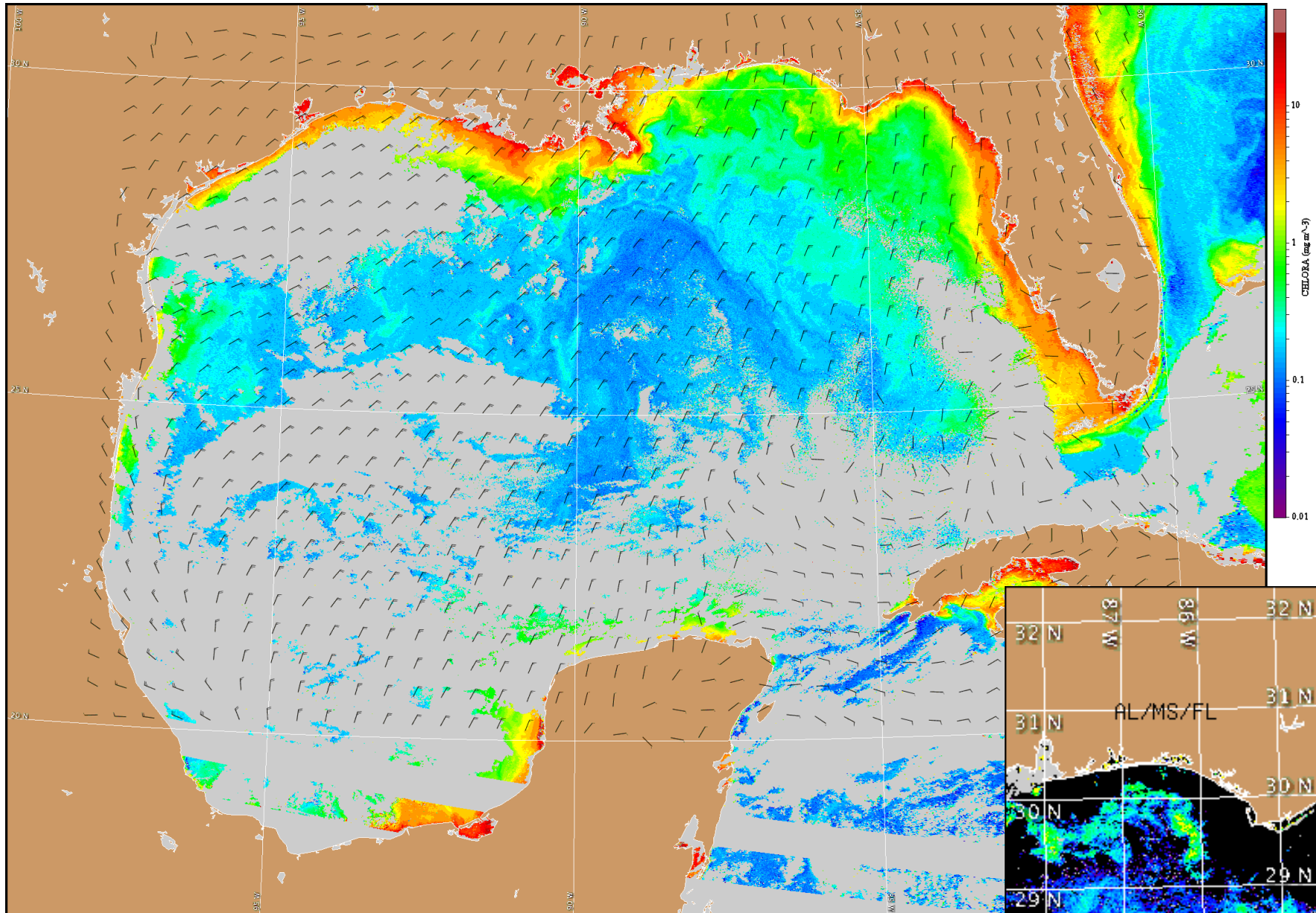


Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Winds will be southwest (20 kts, 10 m/s) today, north becoming northeast (15 kts, 8 m/s) tomorrow, east Wednesday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 6, 2005 12Z.

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).